

Damage Propagation Analysis of Electromechanical Actuator H-Bridge Power Stage

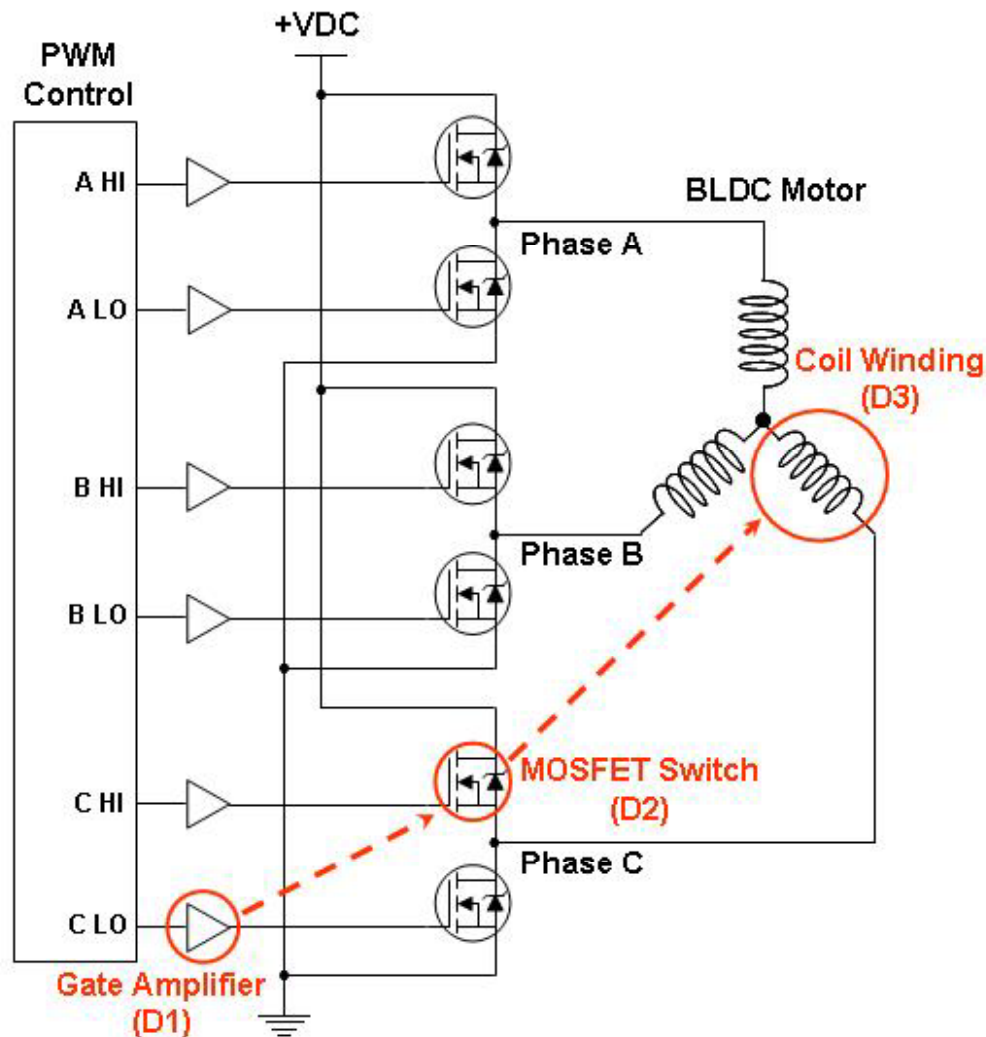
Aviation Safety Technical Conference
October 22, 2008

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Ridgetop Damage Propagation Methodology



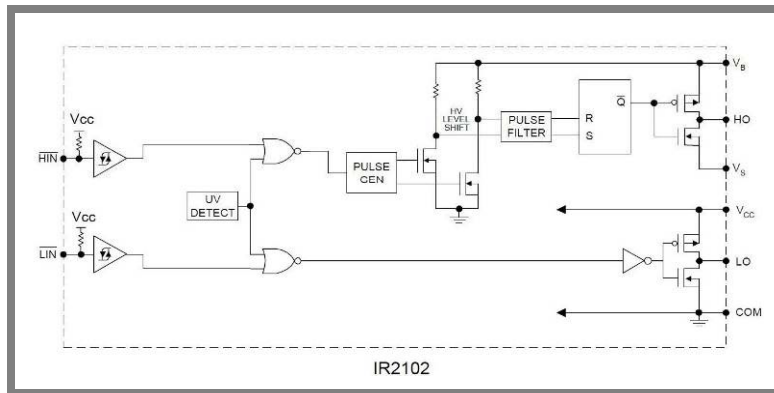
- Apply fault conditions to each critical component of the EMA H-Bridge, starting at the Gate Driver Amplifiers (D1) and progressing to the MOSFET Switches (D2) and Coil Windings (D3) of each BLDC motor phase
- Conduct lab experiments to acquire and characterize the following error associated with each fault condition and resulting stress effect on downstream components
- Analyze Fault-to-Failure Progression (FFP) signatures of acquired testbed data and feed lab results back into a high-fidelity Simulink model of the system

H-Bridge Gate Driver Latch-up Failure

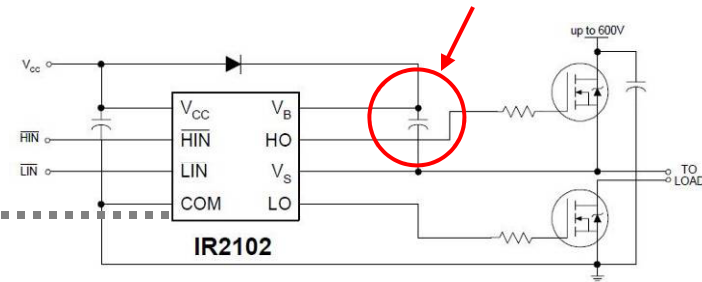
- Prevalent failure mode of gate driver IC is SCR latch-up of parasitic diode structures*
- Bootstrap configuration of gate driver common for high-power motor drive applications
- Gate driver latch-up may be exacerbated by degradation of bootstrap capacitor
- Test fixture constructed to duplicate latch-up failure on single phase of BLDC motor drive

*International Rectifier Design Tip DT97-3

Gate Driver Bootstrap Test Fixture



Bootstrap Capacitor

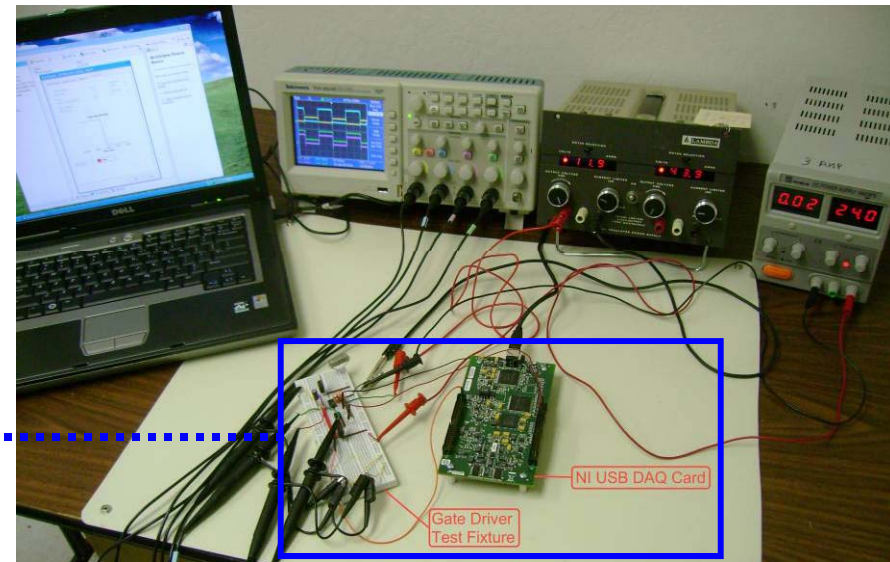


➤ Gate Driver Test Fixture:

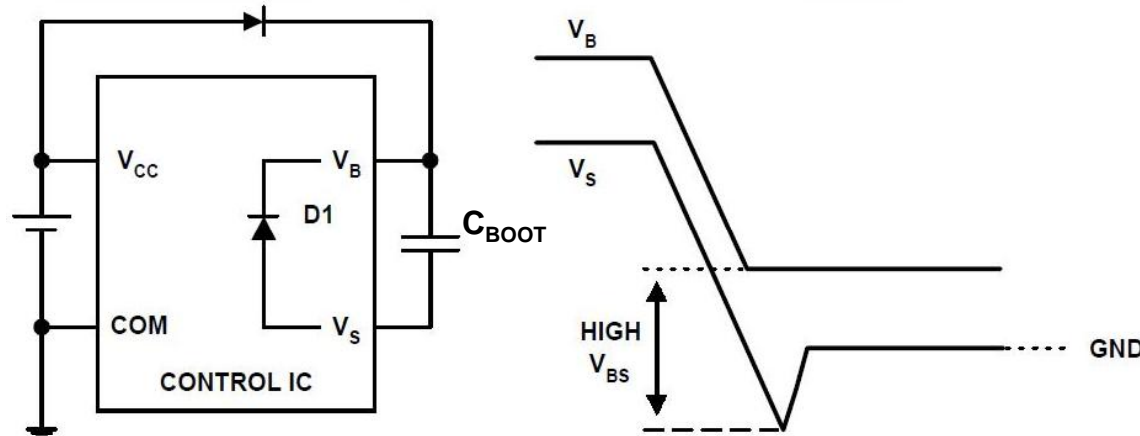
- IR2102S Gate Driver IC
- IRFZ44N Power MOSFETs

➤ NI USB DAQ Card:

- Bus Powered USB-6212
- Driver LIN and HIN Control

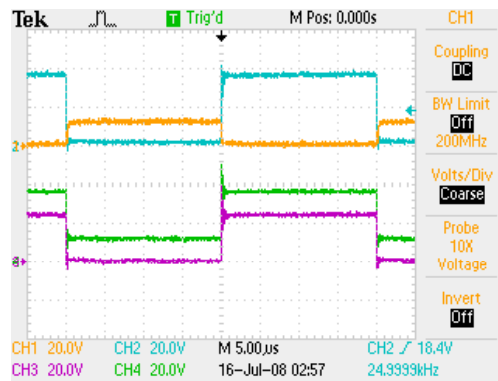


V_S Undershoot / C_{BOOT} Overcharge

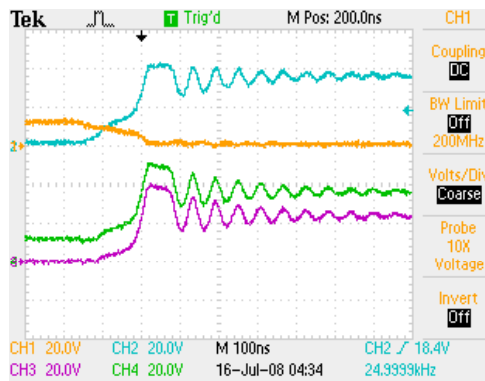


- Floating supply (V_{BS}) formed by bootstrap diode and capacitor is used to power high-side level shifter and gate driver
- High-side MOSFET switch turn-off events cause current flow in low-side freewheeling protection diode
- Diode voltage drop, along with stray low-side MOSFET switch inductance, pulls floating supply return node (V_S) below ground
- Excessive V_S undershoot results in overcharging of C_{BOOT} and subsequent breakdown/latch-up of parasitic diode ($D1$)

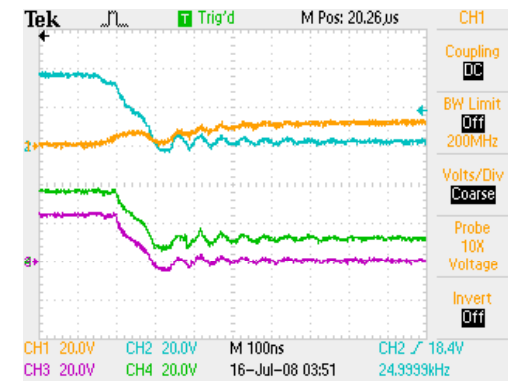
Nominal vs. Degraded Bootstrap Capacitor



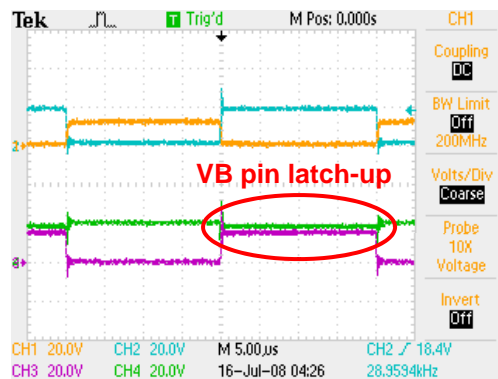
Nominal (0.5 µF)



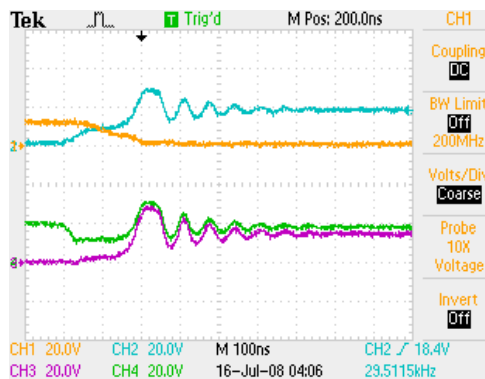
Rising Edge



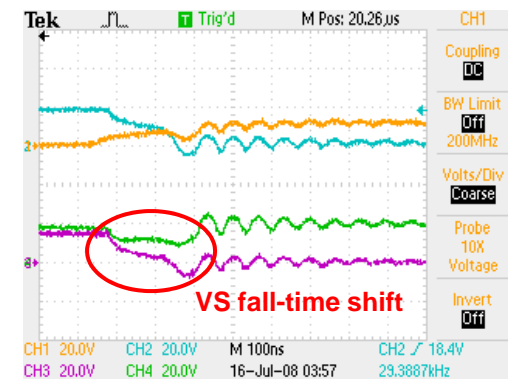
Falling Edge



Degraded (< 0.1 µF)



Rising Edge



Falling Edge

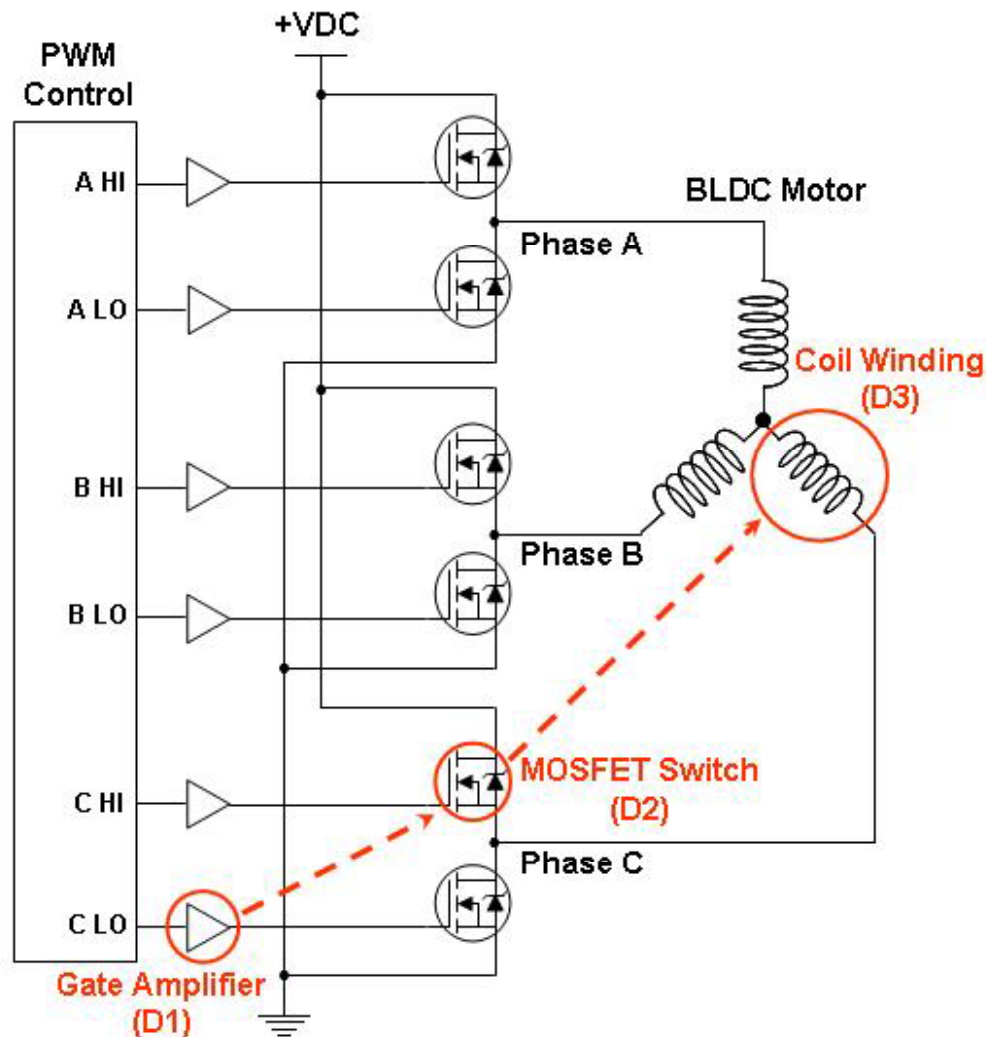
— LO (0..12V)
 — HO (0..36V)
 — VS (0..24V)
 — VB (12..36V)

- Gate driver circuit behavior with nominal vs. degraded bootstrap capacitor
- Latch-up observed on VB pin with bootstrap capacitance less than 0.1 µF
- Pronounced VS fall-time shift conducive to gate driver circuit prognostics

Gate Driver Latch-up Failure Analysis

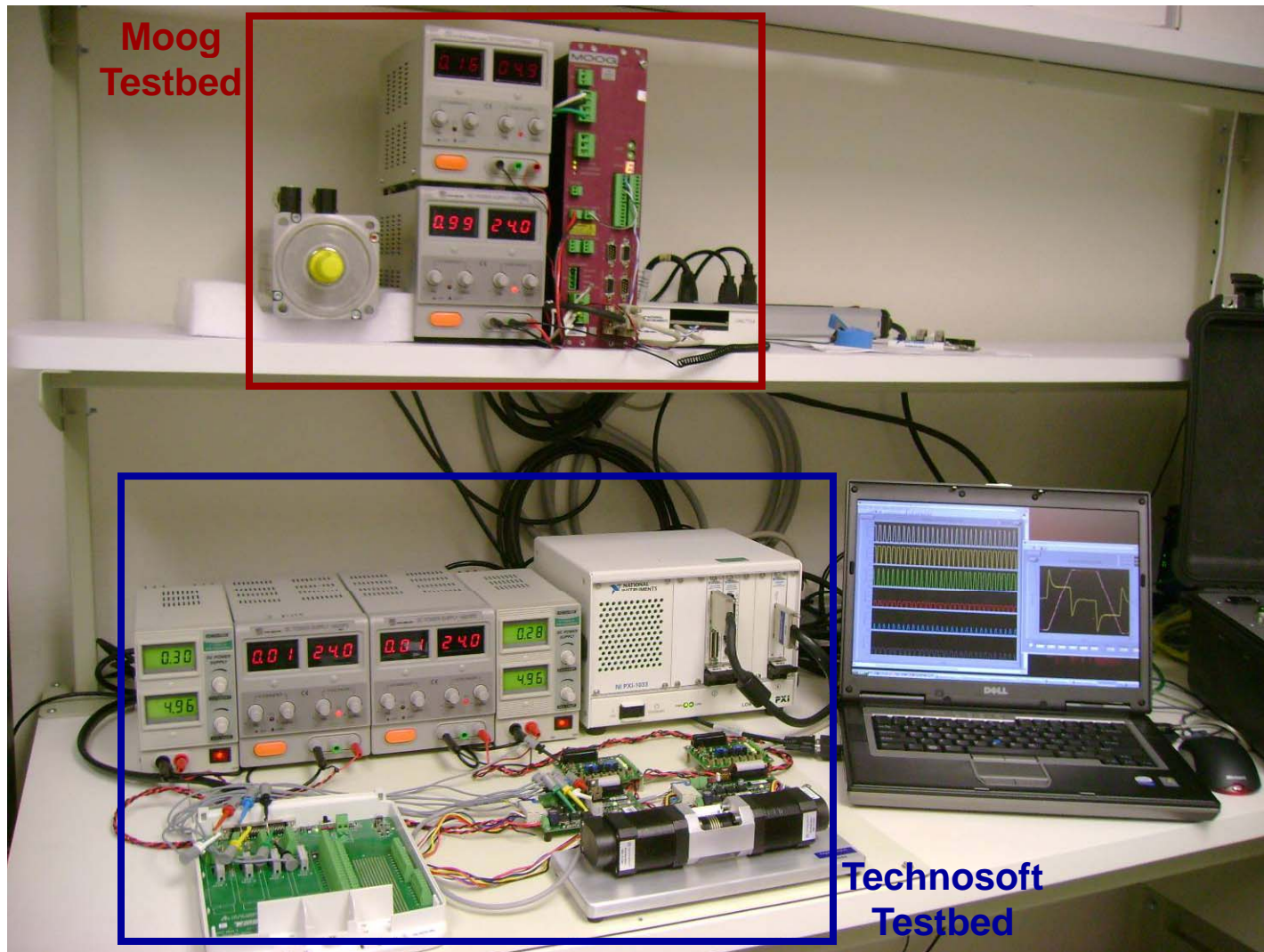
- Overcharging of bootstrap capacitor leads to latch-up of high-side gate driver output
- Bootstrap capacitor degradation reduces gate driver immunity to latch-up failure
- If latched off, gate driver malfunction is manifested in erratic BLDC motor operation
- If latched on, malfunction can lead to permanent MOSFET switch and/or gate driver IC damage

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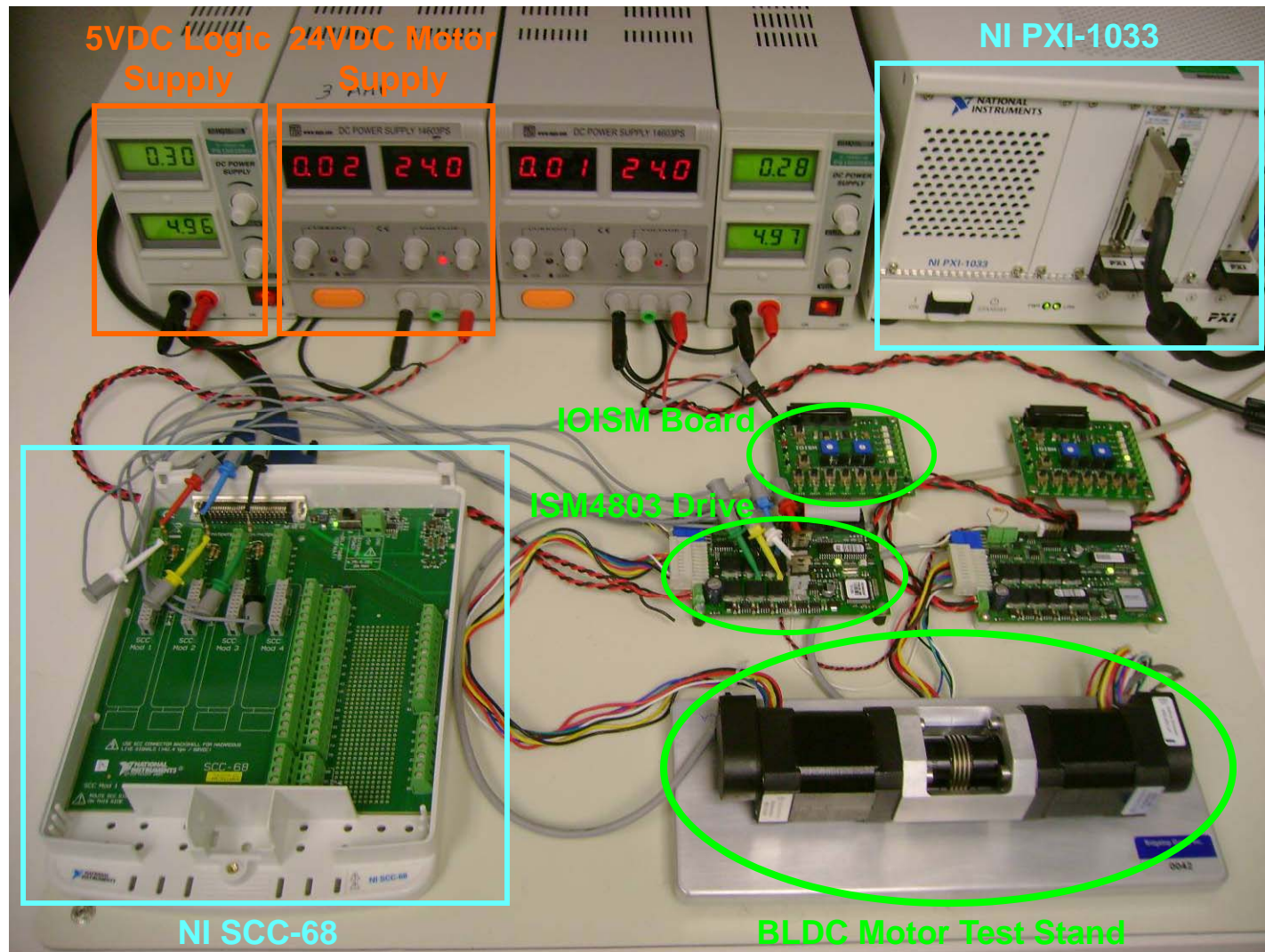
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Technosoft Testbed



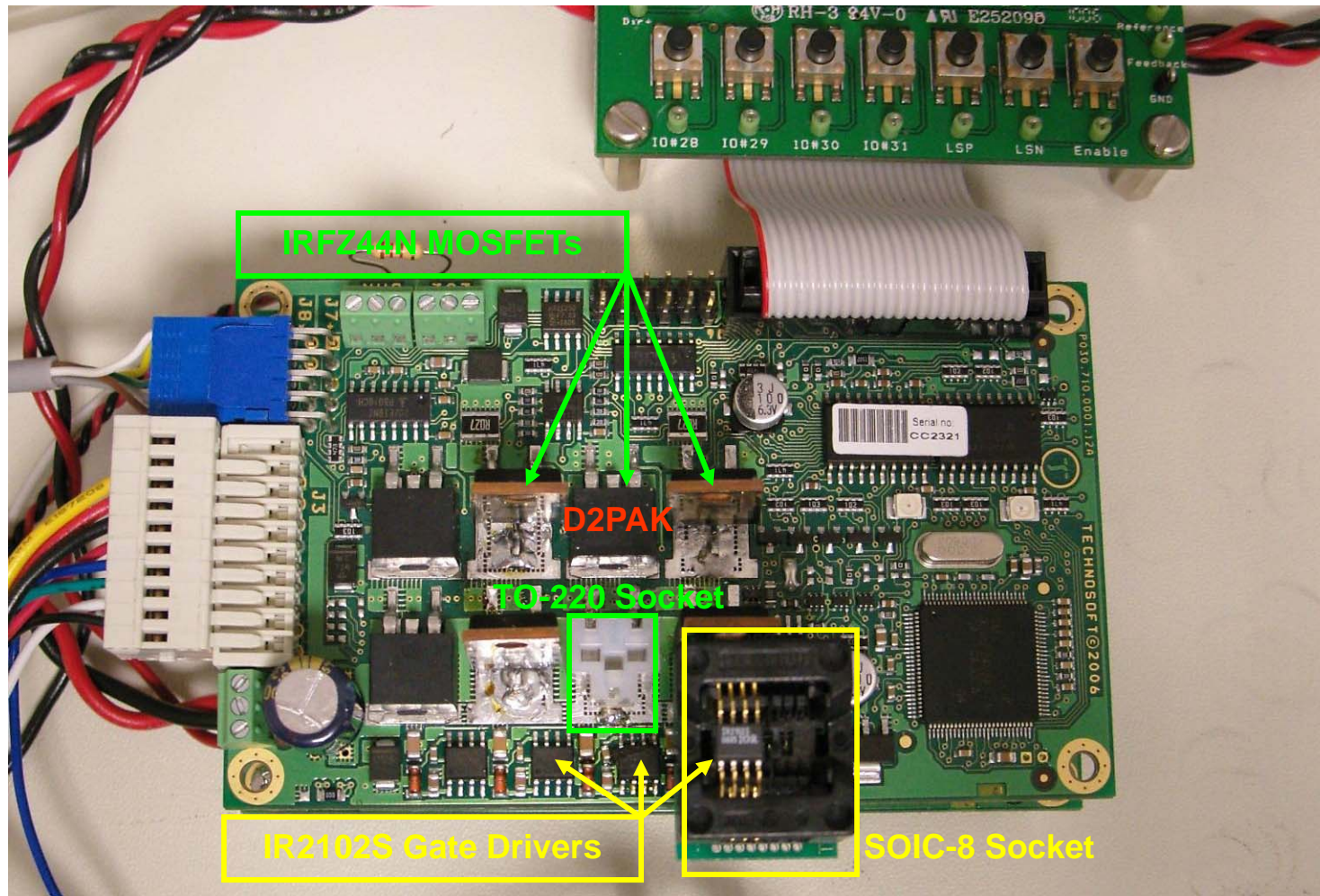
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H-Bridge Damage Propagation Experiment

- Modify Technosoft ISM4803 Servo Drive to facilitate H-bridge damage propagation experiments:
 - IRFZ44N D2PAKs replaced with TO-220 packages, i.e., form factor supported by ARC MOSFET aging lab
 - SOIC-8 socket installed to enable removal/replacement of IR2102S gate driver IC
- Analyze effect of damaged gate driver circuit on low- and high-side MOSFET switches
- Correlate model parameters and simulation results with testbed

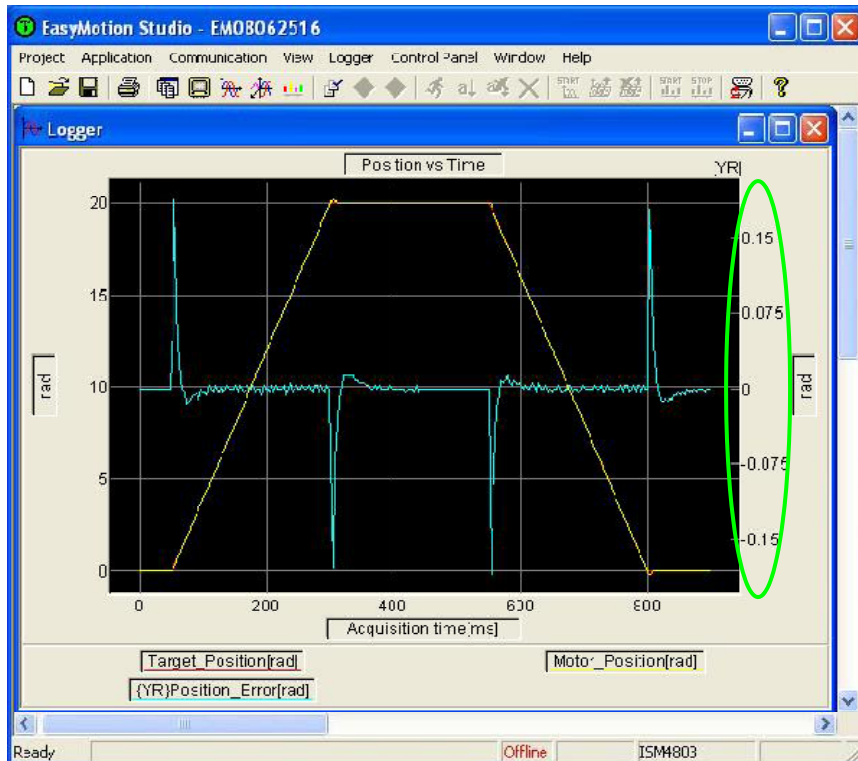
Modified ISM4803 Servo Drive



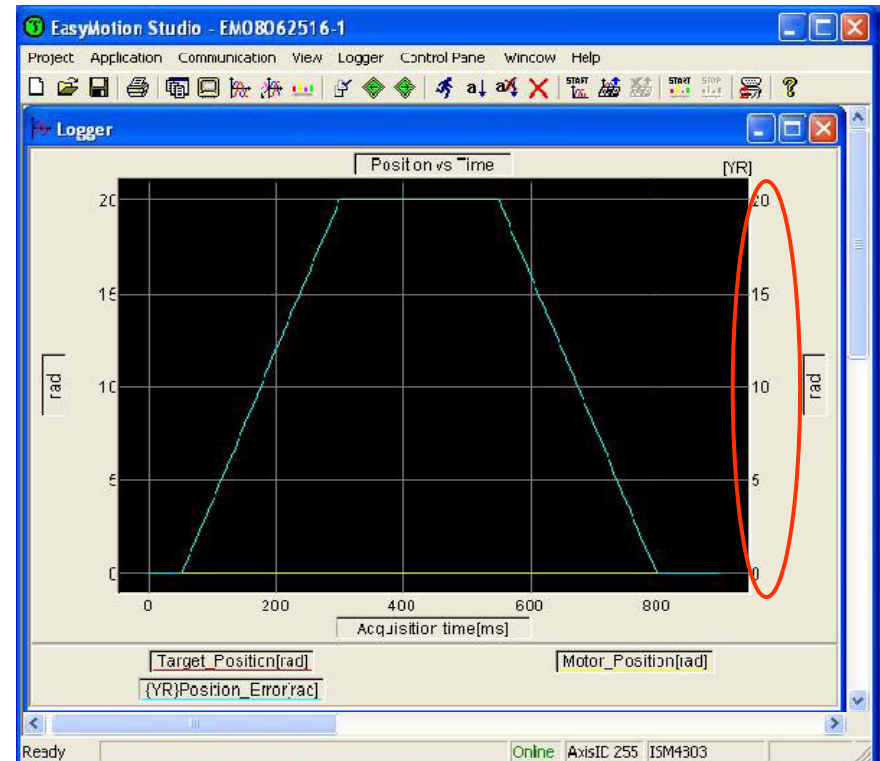
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Testbed Results



Healthy Response - No Fault Present

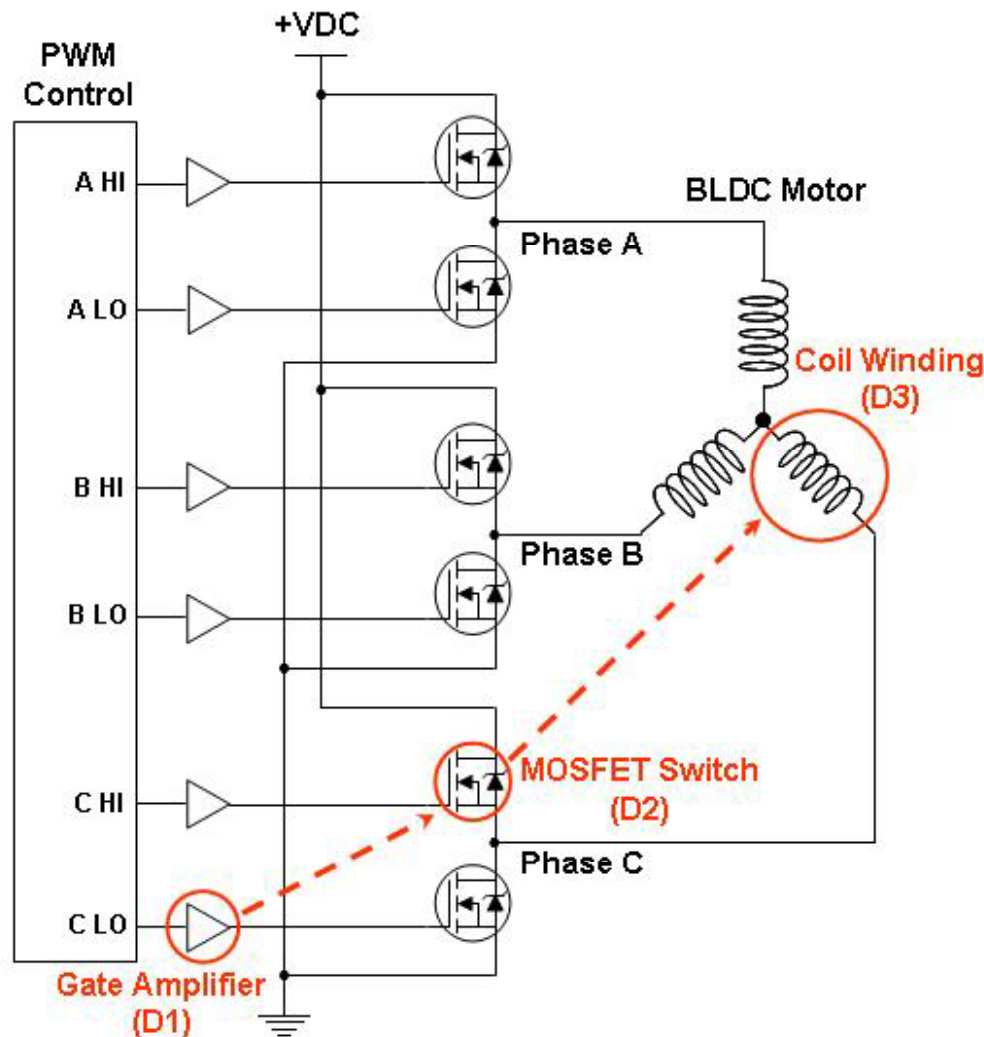


Damage Response - Phase A MOFSETs Shorted

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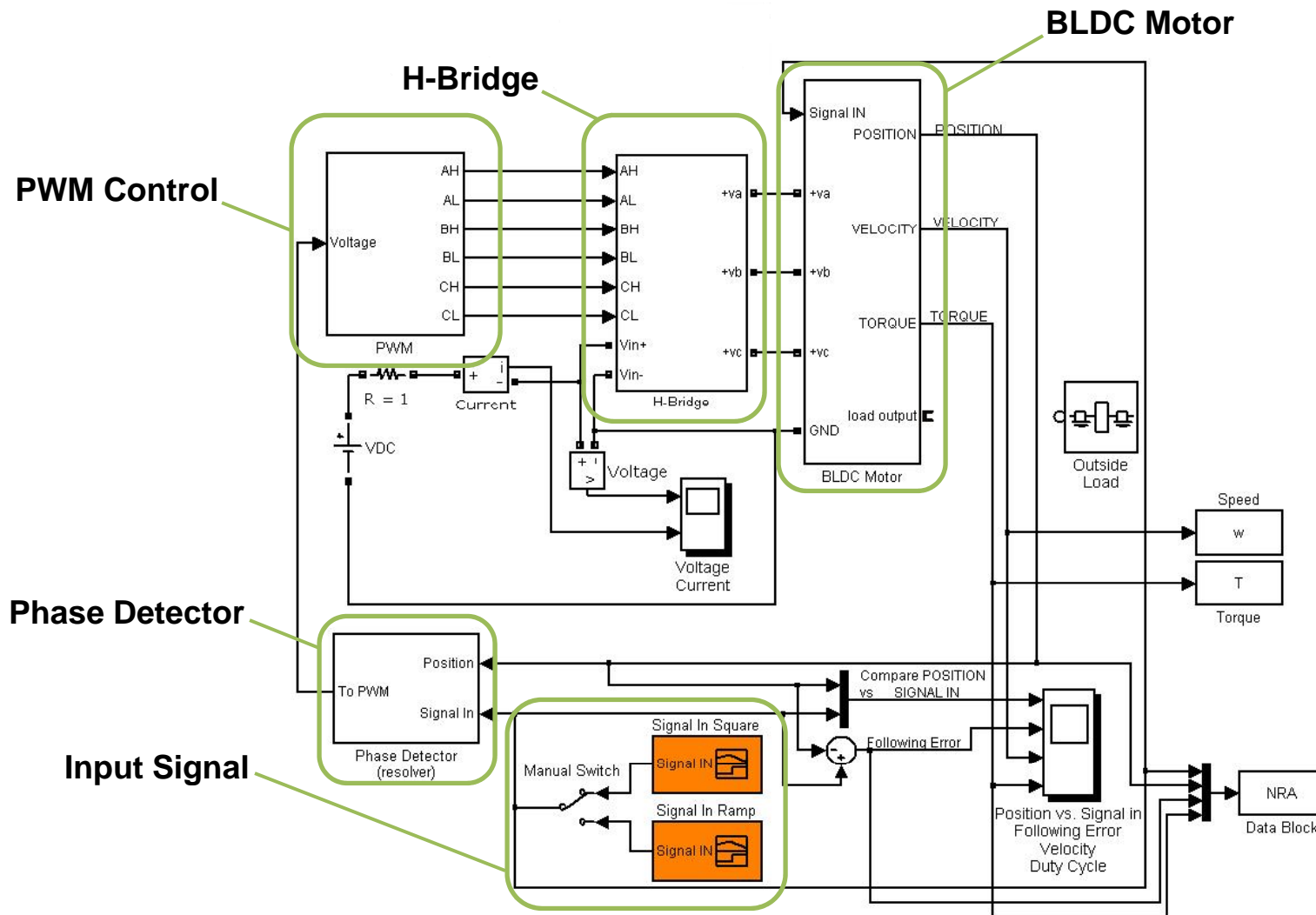


Ridgetop Damage Propagation Methodology

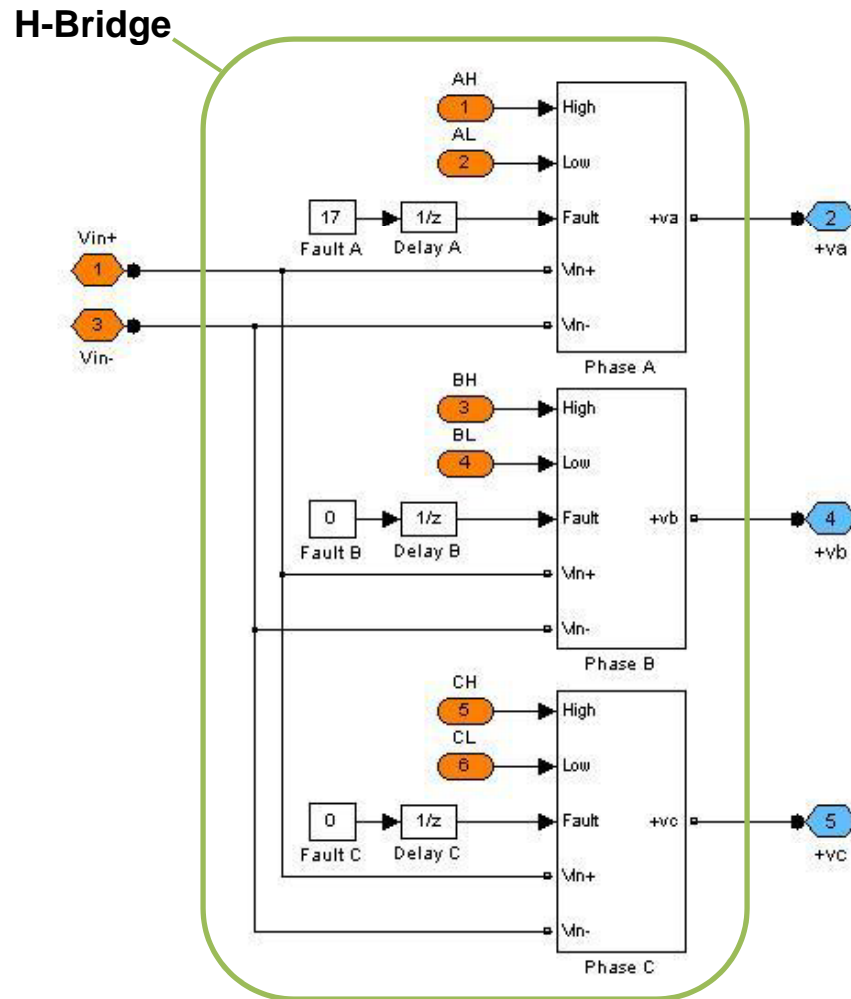


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Simulink Model



MOSFET Open/Short Fault Injection



- For each phase, a packed fault code is composed by user and injected into model hierarchy through the H-bridge block
- Packed fault code is passed to both low- and high-side MOSFET switch blocks where it is decoded and executed

Fault Decode:
 Bit 0..3 = FL (Fault Low)
 Bit 4..7 = FH (Fault High)

Fault Codes:
 0 = NONE
 1 = SHORT
 2 = OPEN

FPACK = FH x 16 + FL

Simulation Parameters / Fault Codes

Simulation Parameters*	
Parameter	Value
R =	0.478 Ω
L =	1.926 mH
K _{emf} =	0.0355 V _{rms} /RPM
K _t =	0.0355 Nm/A
B =	0.00025 Nm/RPM
J =	0.0000054 kg*m ²
J _{ext} =	N/A kg*m ²

Fault Codes	
Code	Description
00h	High-Side Normal, Low-Side Normal
01h	High-Side Normal, Low-Side Short
02h	High-Side Normal, Low-Side Open
10h	High-Side Short, Low-Side Normal
11h	High-Side Short, Low-Side Short
12h	High-Side Short, Low-Side Open
20h	High-Side Open, Low-Side Normal
21h	High-Side Open, Low-Side Short
22h	High-Side Open, Low-Side Open

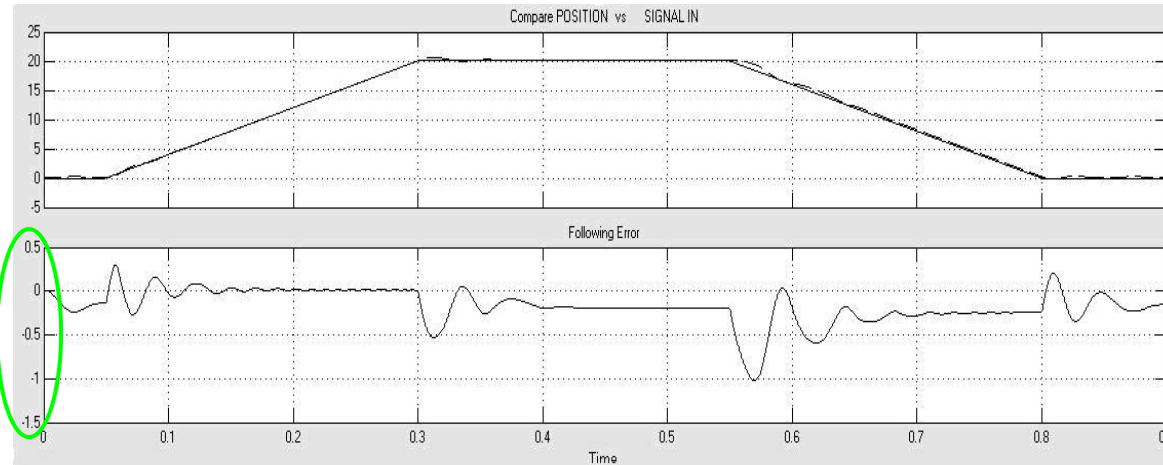
*Simulation parameters correlated with Technosoft testbed

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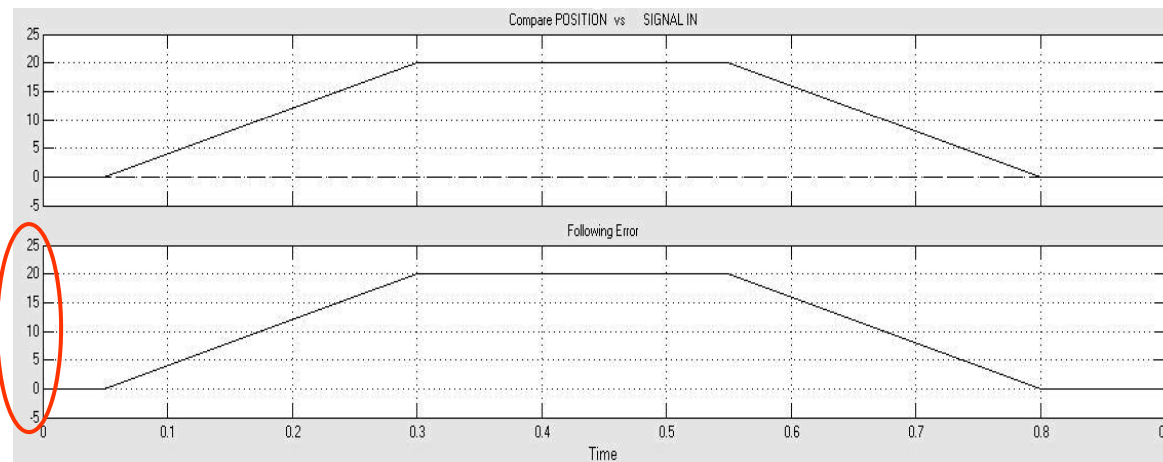
Simulation Results

Minimal
Following Error
(radians)



Healthy Response - No Fault Present

Maximum
Following Error
(radians)



Damage Response - Phase A MOFSETs Shorted

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H-Bridge Damage Propagation Analysis

- Gate driver amplifies TTL or CMOS PWM commutation signals to levels required to switch H-bridge MOSFETs
- Degradation and transient electrical/environmental conditions lead to gate driver open-circuit failures
- Open-circuit driver outputs leave both MOSFET gate inputs floating
- Floating gate inputs can cause both low- and high-side H-bridge switches to turn on simultaneously
- In resistive mode, MOSFETs are vulnerable to current impulses and drain-to-source short circuit damage

Thank You

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